Poor ROBIN'S

Intelligence Reviv'd;

OR, A

NARRATIVE

Of the late Dreadful

BATTELS

BETWEEN

The Potent Prince *de* L'OR,

And the Grand Duke of

PENURIA, *alias* RAGLAND;

Giving an Account

Of their respective Forces, Allies, Numbers of Men Kill'd and taken Prisoners, &c.

Together with the

Articles of Peace

at last Concluded between them.

With Allowance.

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A NARRATIVE

Of the late Dreadful BATTELS.

IN this Age of more than *Athenian* Curiosity, when prating of *Affairs of State*, and publick *Occurrences*, is become so much *the Mode*, that people can scarce meet together *at Church*, without inquiring *what News abroad*; I thought it might be a grateful discovery to publish the *Transactions* between these two *mighty Empires*; in whose *Traverses of War*, the Vulgar Reader, I am confident, is as much *concerned*, as in some *others* that have cost him many a dish of *Tatling-Broth*, and ounce of *Sot-weed*; and therefore cannot with any colour of Reason grudge the expence of this other *odd Twopence* for such important *Intelligence*.

The Prince DE L'ORD, may justly be accounted one of the most redoubted Potentates on earth. His *Hereditary* Dominions were anciently the *East and West Indies*, but of late he hath attempted an Universal Monarchy in *Christendome*: 'tis *he* that Creates Cardinals at *Rome*, *he* that dubs *Knights* at *Malta*; nay, 'tis *he* admits even Senators at *Venice*, and Brethren into the pretended *Society of Jesus*. Most Kingdomes and States court his Alliance, and the Pope himself is more than suspected to be his *Pensioner*. His Subjects, though not exceeding *Numerous*, are very *powerful*, Haughty, Ambitious, desirous of Glory, and notable Politicians; hardly drawn to venture into dangers, but when once engaged, full of a thousand Intrigues and Stratagemes to preserve their Interests: and what they obtain, you may be sure they will keep, which (let me tell you) is one of the best points of a right valiant Souldier.

Would you know who dare oppose so puissant and formidable a Monarch? 'Tis that warlike *Tamberlain*, **Mendicoso Duke of Ragland**, Son of the Invincible Empress *Necessity*, famous through the World for his Courage, and Ability to endure

dure the fatigues of Want and Hardſhip: His people far exceed the other in Multitudes, but are rude, unarmed, and without Diſcipline; yet ingenious, (for Wit is properly a Native of this Country, but thrives beſt in other) full of Inventions, naturally quarrelſome, repining, audacious and greedy to engage the Adverſary: for none are ſo apt for Stirs and Commotions, as thoſe that have nothing to loſe.

The Dominions of theſe two Grandees lye *intermixt*, rather than *bordering*; and have continual *need* of Commerce with, and Supplies from each other: and yet it has been obſerved, That in all Ages there have been *Irreconcileable Feuds*, heart-burnings, and ſecret Animoſities between them. Several Treaties and *Leagues of Peace* they have had, which all proved (as is uſual in ſuch caſes) only convenient Ambuſcades for better opportunities of War: For it is a Dotage equal to the belief of Charms, to imagine, That a few *weak Words* can blunt the edge of a *keen Sword*, or *binde* the *powerful* beyond their *Intereſt*, any more than a *twined thread* could fetter *Sampſon*.

But of late ſturdier Differences have aroſe, and Complaints grown more thick and loud on either ſide; ſo that both Parties reſolved for open War, as the only Salve for open wrong. Poverty (for that Heralds finde to be the moſt antient Title of our *Duke of Ragland*) having in his Train ſo many *Poets*, and ſmall *Philoſophers*, could not want a Manifeſto of his Grievances drawn up after the beſt Faſhion; ſetting forth,

That whereas by antient Fundamental Laws, the Favourites of Riches were obliged to protect and relieve his gaping and tattered Off-ſpring; their breaſts were now ſwelled with Pride and Covetouſneſs, proportionably as their Coffers with Treaſures: So that thoſe Cubs of Fortune (blinde as their Dam) not only withdrew ſuch accuſtomed Auxiliaries, but likewiſe had committed many Outrages on his Subjects and Confederates, having lately murdered one of his antient and moſt dear Allies, called Poverty, *by driving a* Coach full of Ladies and ſix horſes over him; *and deſtroyed another named* Charity, *by baniſhing him from their Gates into the wide world, where he was frozen to death, or, at leaſt, eaten up*

by a Kennel of Hounds. *Besides all this, they had studied so many Stratagems, of* Usury, Extortion, Procuration, Continuation, Racking of Rents, Monopolizing and Ingrossing Commodities, pinching Labourers of their Wages, beating down the prices of Manufactures, snapping of Forfeitures, and screwing up an advantage from poor Tradesmens necessities, *as had cut all the Nerves of Industry, and left the poor Souls* onely *a Choice worse than* Hobson's, *viz.* Famine, Gallows, or Whipping-post; *take which they have most* fancy *for.*

On the other side, **Riches** (or the Prince **De l'Or**, if you please, all's one in the Original) was not behind-hand in a **Declaration**: For those that have *Money* shall never want mercenary Advocates amongst the Book-men to justifie the worst of their Actions.

He set forth at large the Insolence of these Ragged Complainants —— "That they were the Pest of Society, the Scandal of "Government, the Vermine that consum'd the Body Politick; "that abandoning themselves to *Laziness* and *Beggary*, they liv'd "upon the *Spoils* of Industry, and abused Charity: And there- "fore, without *diminution to his own Glory*, he could no longer "bear with such mischievous and sawcy Raggamuffins, who were "to be extirpated with as much diligence as our Ancestors used "in the destruction of Wolves and Foxes.

Things being at this pass, you may easily imagine a Rupture must ensue. But because great Actions require considerable Allies, each Party in the first place entred into renewed Leagues of Confederacy with their respective Friends.

The *Assistants of Poverty* were,

1. Discontent, a person of a fallen Countenance and Melancholy Complexion, that always walks with his Hat over his Eys, and his Arms a cross, muttering like a Witch saying her *Pater noster* backwards. He complains so long of want, when he wants nothing but to know what he would have, that at last (and deservedly) he comes to want indeed.

2. Despair, A near Kinsman of the former, and sworn Brother to Poverty. A meer Atheist as to Religion, and a Tyrant worse than *Procrustes*; hated by the common people for his Cruelty, because if he got any one into his clutches, he presently hanged him up.

3. Sloth, and Carelessness, Two Princes that are Cousen-Germans, but both so troubled with the Gout, That they concern themselves little with

State-maſters: for they reckon the Summer *too hot*, and the Winter *too cold*, to make any Expedition in; and love nothing ſo much as a *good fire*, and a *Feather-bed*: Their Arms are three *Graſhoppers Cantant*, and a *Dormouſe ſomniant*; with this Motto; *Let the world ſlide*. They are likewiſe nearly related to Poverty, and very rarely out of his Company.

4. Repining, The only perſon that whet ed on the Duke and his Subjects to theſe Wars; for he could by no means abide the Prince De l'Ou's people; and it fretted him more to ſee any of them thrive, than if himſelf had fallen into the greateſt calamity.

5 Don Projecto, Duke of the Brain-pan Windwills; One that had the ſame Mortal Grudge againſt Riches, as a caſt-off Lover that rails at his Miſtreſs becauſe he cannot catch her: He had Courted De l'Ou, with a thouſand Deviſes, as *Perpetual Motions*, *the Longitude*, *Philoſophers what-ſtone*, *Art of making Glaſs malleable*, *and Blaſching of Blackamoors*, &c. But not being able to obtain ſo much as a place below ſtairs in his Court, after a tedious attendance, was glad to liſt himſelf under the Adverſaries Standard, and ſerve Poverty, as a Volunteer for term of life.

6. Signior Gulletto Marqueſs of Bowzington; he had formerly been a Favorite of Prince De l'Ou, but having ſwallowed his Patrimony, one day when he was drunk after too plentiful a Dinner, he happened to ſpew in his Soveraigns face; whereupon he was baniſht for ſeven years into the Deſarts of *Lobſpoundia*, and then turned everlaſting *Renegado* to the Duke of Ragland.

Laſtly, Duke *Humphry*, Earl of Hungary, an Excellent Souldier that had overthrown more Armies than *Ceſar*, and never failed of ſpeeding at a Siege; for he there behaves himſelf with ſuch Reſolution, that no ſtone-wall (of what height or ſtrength ſoever) is able to hold out againſt him.

As for De l'Ou, you need not doubt but he was well Befriended; his principal *Allies* were,

1. Covetouſneſs, a wretched old meager chapp'd fellow, whoſe Eyes were ſunk (like a Candle in the ſocket) two inches into his Head, yet continually Rouling with an impious *Longing* to get into his Clutches every thing he lookt upon, (except Heaven, and that he never car'd for.) He was properly a ſubject to Poverty, being more *indebted* to his *Belly*, than his *Head* was worth, and lived altogether as wretchedly as the meaneſt of *Mendicoſo's* Vaſſals: Nor could he be much in favor with De l'Ou, ſince he had kept him cloſe *Priſoner*, not permitting him to ſee the *Sun* (though his own *Father* that begot him) for many years together; yet in this Exigency, againſt the common Enemy his Aſſiſtance was embraced.

2. Parcimony, A naſty Batchelor of Fourſcore, that wears his Cloaths as long as the *Iſraelites* in their paſſage to *Canaan*, and will rather change his Religion twenty times, than his Doublet once; he ſeems to be *Veſpaſians* Heir, for he makes his Piſs-pot pay him Contribution; keeps the parings of his Nails to make Horn-ſparrables, and ſells the Clippings of his Beard to ſtuff Tennis Balls with.

3. Violence, an Antient Courtier, and chief Miniſter to *Ahab*, when he ſeiz'd *Naboths* Vineyard: He knows no Law but his Will, nor Religion but his

his Interest: Men worship him as *Indians* do the Divel, for fear rather than love; for his power can baffle Justice at pleasure, and was the first that made the Proverb Canonical, *Might overcomes Right*.

4. Deceit, one that looks a little a squint, but of so deep a reach, that he sometimes fetches over *Covetousness* in spight of all his caution; he is thought to be the By-blow of a Lawyer, begot on a Town-Jilt, and bred up in the Kings-Bench-Rules; yet Tradesmen intirely love him, and he has more followers than *Nailor*, *Muggleton*, or that Belweather of Faction *Smectymnuus* himself: you may know him by a perpetual sleer in his face; a French Heart, and a Dutch Head; or a Quakers outside, and a Jesuitical Lining.

5. Usury, An old *Hebrew*, the first that taught Money to commit Incest, for the *Latchery* of Ten in the hundred. He seems a great *House-keeper*; for there are thousands in the City live upon him; and yet there is no more *Conscience* in him than in *Tavern Fagots*. He is a person of Quality and Office, being the Divels *Tole-taker* on Earth; and when he dies, lies magnificently Entombed with his Ancestors in the *brightest* Vault of Hell. ——— *Cum multis aliis*.

Affairs being thus far rippened for War, the Drums beat up for Volunteers on each side; and 'tis incredible to think what vast Numbers from all Quarters flockt in, to the Standard of Poverty.

The first that offered themselves were a Troop of Indigent Scholars in threadbare Black, that had just Learning enough to beg their Bread in several Languages; they made such haste to succour their old Acquaintance *the Duke of Ragland*, that many of them had scarce time to put on any shooes on their feet: Their Weapon was the fist of Logick, with which, and the Two-edged Sword of Distinction, and some small-shot of Pedantry, they have done Christendome as much mischief, as ever it sustained from *Goths* and *Vandals*.

These were followed by a Regiment of *Journeymen-Tailors*, each twenty thousand strong, Cloathed not, as *Adam*, in Fig Leaves, but more serviceable Cabbadge: Their outside was very gay with Lace and Ribboons, though both their Pockets and Bellies wanted Ammunition; and they would be sure to have *Ruffled-Cuffs*, though no *Shirts*. In a word, they were people of an Invincible Stomack, and offered to serve *Poverty* with their Lives and Fortunes, for an halfpenny brown George a day and Cucumbers.

Not a few Itinerate Worthies of the *Gentle Craft*, having Mortgaged St. *Hughs* Bones for Liquor to make them valiant, entered the service, sweating they would every Mothers Son outdo the Exploits of *Hewson* and St. *Crispin*. With them joined a multitude of *Weavers*, running as swift as their Shuttle, and with as good will as if they had gone against the Common Enemy.

A Troop of *younger Brothers*, offered themselves to be of the Duke of Buckingham's Lifeguard: for though they had nothing to loose, yet they thought they might gain a Knighthood, which worshipful Bait might draw over some rich Widdows of the Distinct de l'Dy's Party to nibble at it.

To attend them, came in a Company of old Serving-men; which were made

made Canonneers, because they had much experience in Charging and Discharging the Great Leathern Bombard.

In the Rear, seaven thousand *Scabtrapts* presented their service; but were entertain'd with some diffidence, because a number of Poverty's Army exclaimed against them, as the rankest Villains in a Common-wealth, having undone them, their Wives and Children, and holding a secret Correspondence with the Enemy; however, at length they were received, and had the ordering of all Fire-works, Mines, and Countermines, as being the rarest Artists for damnable and speedy Blowing up in any Assault.

But notwithstanding these and many other Volunteers, the Camp of Riches was much better furnisht and provided. And now Acts of Hostility began on either side.

First there issued out of the Army of the Prince of Pr, under the Command of Count *Ignoramus Knavishull*, three Battalions of *Petti-foggers*, who falling amongst the Enemy, put the poor Bumkins into great confusion, utterly ruining a considerable Party, and taking many Prisoners: which they more easily effected, because they fought with *White Powder*, and forced the silly Rascals always to pay them Contribution towards their own undoing.

To give some diversion to these mischievous Assailants, Poverty sent forth a Forlorn-Hope of *Knights of the Post*, *Tripans*, *Forgers of Deeds*, and *Suborners of Evidence*; together with an Ambuscade of *Prior Mortgages*, *Antient Intails*, *Conceal'd Statutes*, and *Dormant Judgments*, flankt with a reserve of vexatious *Paupers*; who did notable service against the Enemy, and so much incommoded them, that they knew not which way to turn, and were glad to quit several advantagious Posts they had formerly obtained.

Some few days after, happened a fierce Rencounter between a Legion of *Ale-drapers*, *Brokers*, and *Tally-men*, on the one part; and a Squadron of *Town-Bullies*, *Wheelstone-Park-Ladies*, *Oyster-Women*, *Bone-Lace-makers*, *Kitchin-stuff-merchants*, *Broom-Jobbers*, and other united Troops of *Kent-street*, *Sharps-Alley*, *Turnmil-street*, *St. Giles's*, *Whitechappel*, *Wapping*, and *Mutton-Lane*; wherein the former being re-inforced by a Detachment of *Bum-Bailies*, and *Marshals-men*, after several brisk Assaults, routed the latter: However, the *Bullies* secured their Retreat into *Alsatia*. The *Wheelstoners* came to an honorable Composition: but the rest were so miserably pillaged, that they had scarce a tatter left to cover them.

In the mean time Riches published an Ordinance, strictly Commanding all *Lords of Manours*, *Landlords*, *eminent Merchants* (especially Incorporated) *Wealthy Farmers*, *Graziers*, and *Money-boarders*, That they should immediately, and from time to time inhance the price of Corn and Provisions, engross all gainful Commerce and Commodities, inclose all Commons, turn out old Tenants, or renew their Leases not without excessive Fines; break up House-keeping, and retire in Hackney-Coaches to the City, whilst their Tenants and Dependants starv'd in the Countrey; pull down all Almshouses and Hospitals, or (which is as bad) divert their Revenues quite contrary to the Founders Intent; and in general, not to hold the least Correspondence with the Subjects of Poverty, but force them, out of pure want

and

and necessity to return to their obedience; or rather, utterly rout them out from off the face of the earth.

To countermine these Stratagems, **Poverty** dispatches a Company of needy Gallants into the Enemies Territories, who did wonderful execution: For in less than one Months time, by the help of *false Dice* and *salser Mistresses*, *Horse-racings*, *Cock-fightings*, *Barretisings*, and *continual Debauches*, two Thousand Country-Squires, Aldermens Sons, and other Cullies of eminent note, heretofore in the **Prince** de L'Oy's Court, were brought in Prisoners to their Garrison of *Beggars-bush*. Besides, he hired a parcel of *Hackney-Clerks*, and *Small Conveyancers*, who getting secretly into the Enemies Magazine, by leaving out, or razing ---- *Sets Heirs*, *In perpetuum*, *Warrant & Defend*, *Quit-claim*, *Solvendums*, *Habendums*, *Tenendums*, and such other Quilletical Provisoe's, rendered their Ammunition unserviceable. Thereby betraying fair Estates, as fast as heretofore Towns surrendred to *French* Pistols.

The War being maintained thus obstinately, a sad Accident happen'd in the Camp of **Riches**; For a terrible new Disease, worse than the Griping of the Guts, called *The gnawing of the Conscience*, got amongst them, which seized them with violent Vomitings to cast up their ill-gotten Wealth. The *Usurers*, as they were one Night keeping Guard over their beloved Bags, were frighted out of their senses by the Ghosts of certain Widows and Orphans; and the *Brokers* ran up and down raving-mad, crying, *The Devil! The Devil!* On the other side the Troops of **Poverty** were reduced to extraordinary hardships. Their Souls were desperate, and their Bodies consumed; weary of their Lives, and yet compelled to live for further Miseries: So that both States being almost ruined by these Contentions, began now to wish for Peace. Whereupon *Charity* and *Industry* (the first revived by the help of an unknown *Rosie-crucian* Doctor, and the latter recall'd from Banishment) undertook to be *Mediators* between them, by whose good offices, in short time, a firm League was concluded on these Articles;

1. *That from and after the One and thirtieth day of* September *next happening, all Hostilities shall cease; and thence forward the* Rich *shall not in any place or kinde inflict ever* *oppress the* Poor; *but employ, cherish, and relieve them, to the best of their Power.*

2. *That the* Poor *shall abandon their old League with* Pride *and* Laziness, *and joyning in a new and firm Alliance with* Content *and* Diligence, *shall no longer envy, nor repine at the* Rich.

3. *That* Poverty: *Subjects should be ever in a readiness (as the* Switzers *are for pay) to fight for* Money, *if she craved their aid; and that* Money *in requital, should help them, whensoever they stood in need.*

4. *And lastly, For a firm Foundation of future Amity, since they were two Nations so mighty, so nearly allied by Blood, so dispersed into all the parts of the world, and yet so mingled together, that it was impossible to sever them: By mutual Consent a Law was made, That Fortune should be no longer Blinde; but that all the Dollars and Ducatoons should by their Elixars and Skill help her to her Eyes, that she may hence forwards see whom she bestowes her Blessings. Because hitherto Fools have been by her favour with Wealth, which they knew not how to use; and Wise-men sent away (like Beggars from Misers gate) with empty Wallets.*

These Articles being mutually Signed and Ratified, the Armies broke up. Those were set at Liberty; the Rich men began to Feast one another, (as they were wont to do) and the Poor were kept poor still: Some had too much, some too little, and none enough; and so it will be to the End of the Chapter.

FINIS.

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